



# ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH HEREFORD

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**Dear All,** The Sunday after Pentecost is kept in honour of The Most Holy Trinity. This solemnity is not so much a mathematical conundrum to get your head round, but a day when the Church celebrates the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, which affirms the belief in one God existing as three distinct yet co-equal persons, namely: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Solemnity invites us to contemplate the mystery of God's presence and the love that exists between each person of the Holy Trinity. The Christian teaching about the Trinity is not meant to be an explanation of God, rather it is a way of describing what we know about God.

St Augustine used the idea and notion of love to try and explain the Trinity and its three parts. In his masterful work, De Trinitate (On the Trinity), he explains how if the Father is the lover, and the Son is the beloved, then the Holy Spirit is love. The Trinitarian life is also evident in creation. At an Angelus address, Pope Benedict XVI explained how "the strongest proof that we are made in the image of the Trinity is this: love alone makes us happy because we live in a relationship, and we live to love and to be loved. Borrowing an analogy from biology, we could say that imprinted upon his "genome", the human being bears a profound mark of the Trinity, of God as Love."

Trinity Sunday, then, invites us to dwell on our relations to God, ourselves, and others. Loving is expressed in giving. If we love God, we give ourselves to Him. This is a gift we must make daily to God and neighbour. If we do this, we share, in the words of the Collect, in the "wondrous mystery." **Fr John**



**SAINT LUKE** The seasons of Lent and Easter are over. Many of us will remember the wonderful Holy Week and Easter ceremonies. The Easter Vigil at SFX and the Cathedral, with the procession into the Cathedral with the Easter Candle. Our church on Easter Sunday morning was packed, as it was on Pentecost Sunday morning. During these ceremonies there have been baptisms, receptions into full communion of the Catholic Church and confirmations. We now move into that long period from after Pentecost until Advent called Ordinary Time, not the most inspiring name. We shall shortly be celebrating Corpus Christi, with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament, a time to renew our devotion to the Eucharist – The Mass.

During this liturgical season, we accompany Jesus in his journey to Jerusalem, as recounted by St Luke. We shall listen to Jesus' Mission of the Seventy, a reminder that we too are called to have the same courage that Jesus' disciples showed. We're challenged to reach out to our neighbour as we listen to the well-known parable of the Good Samaritan. It was the Samaritan, 'the second-class citizen' who stopped to bring healing and comfort to the man lying half dead on the side of the road. St Luke teaches us how to pray. In answer to the one of his disciples' questions, he gives us the Lord's Prayer. Luke shares with us Jesus' teaching on petitionary and contemplative prayer. A disciple is someone who brings his petitions, thoughts and prayers before Almighty God with trust and confidence. Again, the disciple is someone who listens attentively to God with the ear of the heart.

Jesus' teaching is challenging. As disciples of Jesus, we mustn't be faint-hearted but rather be prepared to give ourselves totally to God. The disciple's life is one led in humility and compassion. St Luke teaches that if Christians are to imitate Christ, the Messiah, the first lesson to be learned is that of the cross. Christians are called to take up their cross daily and practise the virtue of patience.

St Luke portrays Mary as someone who, on account of her faith and fidelity, epitomizes all the just people of the Old Testament who patiently waited God's salvation, and as someone whose readiness to listen to the Word of God and put it into practice makes here a model for those of every generation who follow Christ. 'I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.' (Luke I:38) **Fr James**

**Welcome to new parishioners and visitors.** Do introduce yourselves to the welcomers and **come along after the 10.00am Mass for coffee and cake.**



Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Ministers of the Word
<b>6pm</b> Wendy Winterburn Angela Holmes Vigeetha Joseph	<b>6pm</b> Philip Dixon Stuart Fox
<b>8am</b> Frances Hetterley Cecilia Balestra	<b>8am</b> Tracey Buckley Lorraine L Williams
<b>10am</b> Thomas Kottuppallil Lorena D L Aeur Mary Cook	<b>10am</b> AudreyFussell Bruno Alves

**Join the Altar Servers! Congratulations** to those servers who were recently enrolled in the Guild of St Stephen and received their bronze medals. There is a strong tradition of young people serving at SFX and it would be great to welcome new members - especially as some of our older servers head off to university soon. Our servers enhance the liturgy at SFX and visitors often remark how wonderful it is to see so many servers being involved - we know! Being an altar server is a very special opportunity to serve Our Lord and to draw closer to Him - and taking an active part in the liturgy makes it even more interesting. If you have just made your First Holy Communion then now is an ideal time to start. Speak to Fr John or Pete Fawcett, or email: [servers@sfxhereford.org.uk](mailto:servers@sfxhereford.org.uk)

**Congratulations to Alfie & Daniel** who were received into the Church last weekend at the 6.00pm and 10am Masses. A Great blessing for us!

We remember all who have died and those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

**Lately Dead– Fr Keith Robinson funeral TBC**  
**Anniversaries:** Donald Glendenning, Kenneth Childs, Peter Devlin, Winifred Doran, Kathleen Wheeler, Sylvia Phillips, Dermot Kelleher, William Hankinson.  
**Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.**



We welcome **Alexander Lusty** who will be baptised here at 12 noon on Sunday.



**Pray for the Sick:** Ania Kuzba, Jan Beavan, Robbie Bell, Brian Symonds, Meg Furber, Ann Currie, Midad Jasari, David Madgen, Lynne Howells, Katherine Melia, Christina James, Ana Rudnicki, Nicola Merrick, Martin O'Connor, Patricia Moroney, Margaret Skelding, James Spradbery, Teresa Bord, Sarah, Ann Marie Hughson, John Moroney, Pauline and David Day, Mark Edmunds, Didit Buhain. Margaret Davis, Sarah James.

**Shroud Exhibition**  
**Opening Times**  
**Sunday 15th 3.00pm**  
**Opening talk by Pam Moon—Shroud Expert.**  
**Mon 16th –Sun 29th**  
**11.00am –3.00pm**



**Short talk every day at 1.30pm and Thursday 19th and 26th at 7.00pm.**

**Thank you to the Nigerian choir!** They sang for us at the 10.00am



Mass last Sunday, it was lovely to hear you sing. Thank you to all our singers! "When you sing you pray twice!" St Augustine

**It's Summer!**

That means **summer fetes!**

There are 2 to choose from next Saturday 21st June

**(or better still go to both!)**

**SFX school fete** begins at 12noon with lots of fun to be had.

**Belmont fete** follows from 2pm which is always very enjoyable.



**MASS FOR RED BOX MISSIONARIES OF HOPE**

Red Box holders and all SFX parishioners are invited to a Mission Mass in the Jubilee Year of Hope on Sunday 21st June at 12.30pm, St David's Priory Church, St David's Place, Swansea SA1 3NG. Mass will be followed by a shared lunch. Please RSVP by email to [redbox@missio.org.uk](mailto:redbox@missio.org.uk) or tel. 07593 544622



**Help Save our Candle Stand** One of the great joys of having our beautiful church open every day is that it allows so many people to come in and light a candle in front of the icon. We urgently need some cleaners who in their own time can pop in and help clean and re-stock the candle stand. Our faithful cleaners at the moment are exhausted! Please contact the office if you can help.



**Collections 8/6/2025**  
**1st £503.13 The Parish**  
**2nd £406.80 Renovation**



**Parish Calendar – June 2025**

<b>Sun 15th</b>	<b>3.00pm</b>	<b>Shroud of Turin talk by Pam Moon, shroud expert</b>
<b>Mon 16th</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>SVP</b>
<b>Wed 18th</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>ABC Bible study group</b>
<b>Thurs 19th</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Poetry for pleasure</b>